

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 03152 282126Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00
DOE-11 SOE-02 CEQ-01 OES-07 MCE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /116 W
-----066835 010347Z /70

R 281833Z FEB 78 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8392
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 03152

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, MPOL, SALT, PEPR, UR, US
SUBJECT: FURTHER SOVIET COMMENT ON ARMS CONTROL

REF: MOSCOW 2709
SUMMARY: PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA CARRY COMMENTARIES ON SALT
WHICH DRAW HEAVILY ON BREZHNEV'S FEB. 24 SPEECH TO THE
SUPREME SOVIET. IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL APPEARS TO BLAME
ADMINISTRATION FOR DIFFICULTIES IN SALT. END SUMMARY.

1. IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL OF FEB. 27, ENTITLED "TO CONTROL
THE ARMS RACE," IS DEVOTED LARGELY TO SALT. FOR THE MOST
PART IT IS A ROUTINE LISTING OF SOVIET DISARMAMENT PRO-
POSALS AND BEGINS BY SUMMARIZING BREZHNEV'S REMARKS ON
FEB. 24 TO THE SUPREME SOVIET (REFTEL). ON SALT, THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 03152 282126Z

EDITORIAL CALLS FOR CONCLUSION OF AN AGREEMENT "IN
STRICT CONFORMITY" WITH THE VLADIVOSTOK UNDERSTANDING.
THE USSR, ACCORDING TO THE EDITORIAL, IS NOT TO BLAME FOR
FAILURE TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THIS BASIS: THE U.S.
SIDE HAS PRESENTED A SERIES OF PROPOSALS INTENDED TO
REVISE THE VLADIVOSTOK UNDERSTANDING AND TO GAIN ADVAN-
TAGES FOR ITSELF AT THE EXPENSE OF SOVIET SECURITY. THE

EDITORIAL CLAIMS THAT THE "OBSTACLES" CREATED BY THE U.S. AT SALT MUST BE SEEN IN LIGHT OF U.S. EFFORTS TO STEP UP THE ARMS RACE. THE NEUTRON BOMB COMES IN FOR ROUTINE CONDEMNATION IN THE EDITORIAL.

2. PRAVDA OF FEB. 28 PUBLISHES AN ARTICLE BY ITS POLITICAL OBSERVER V. KORIONOV ON "FORCES" IN THE U.S. OPPOSING DETENTE WHO ARE ENGAGED IN "THE CURRENT DECEPTIVE CAMPAIGN DIRECTED AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION." ACCORDING TO KORIONOV, THESE FORCES ARE UPSET BY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND PARTICULARLY BY PROGRESS MADE IN SALT II AS WELL AS BY THE FACT THAT BOTH THE U.S. AND THE USSR ARE DETERMINED "TO CONCLUDE THIS WORK IN THE NEAR FUTURE." AMERICAN REACTION TO SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA IS TREATED AS EVIDENCE OF THE UNREASONABLE ATTITUDE OF THE OPPONENTS OF A SOVIET-U.S. ARMS AGREEMENT AND THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY CITING BREZHNEV'S STATEMENT TO THE SUPREME SOVIET ON FEB. 24 THAT "FORCES" HOSTILE TO GOOD U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS HAVE SET UP OBSTACLES TO IMPROVED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

3. COMMENT: THE IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL IS SOMETHING OF AN ANOMALY IN THE RECENT SOVIET COMMENTARY ON ARMS CONTROL WHICH WAS BEGUN BY PRAVDA'S EDITORIAL ARTICLE OF FEB. 11. IT DOES NOT DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN OPPONENTS TO SALT AND THE MORE SOBER-MINDED ELEMENTS IN THE U.S., AS HAVE MOST SOVIET PUBLIC STATEMENTS, AND COULD LEAVE THE SOVIET LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 03152 282126Z

READER WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS TO BLAME FOR THE "OBSTACLES" TO PROGRESS IN SALT. MOREOVER, IZVESTIYA GIVES THE IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIET NEGOTIATING POSITION CONTINUES TO BE THAT SALT II SHOULD DO NO MORE THAN TIDY UP LOOSE ENDS LEFT OVER AT VLADI-VOSTOK. (WE NOTE THAT BREZHNEV DID NOT MENTION VLADI-VOSTOK IN HIS FEB. 24 SPEECH.) ON THE OTHER HAND, KORIONOV'S ARTICLE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE SOVIET PUBLIC CAMPAIGN OF RECENT WEEKS WHICH HAS BLAMED ANTI-SOVIET FORCES IN THE U.S. FOR FAILURE TO CONCLUDE MUTUALLY FAVORABLE AGREEMENTS AND WHICH HOLDS OUT HOPE THAT AGREEMENT CAN YET BE REACHED QUICKLY. MATLOCK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, SALT (ARMS CONTROL), ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW03152
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780093-0135
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW USSALTTWO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978024/aaaaacsl.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 030508d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 MOSCOW 2709
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3555498
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FURTHER SOVIET COMMENT ON ARMS CONTROL
TAGS: PARM, MPOL, PEPR, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/030508d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014